

CHECK YOUR RISK

At some point we all may have put ourselves at risk for HIV, other STDs or Hepatitis. If you take the risk, take this test.

- ☐ Have I ever had hepatitis or a sexually transmitted disease (STD) such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, herpes, genital warts or syphilis?
Having an STD or hepatitis increases your risk of getting HIV. The same behaviors that put you at risk for STDs and hepatitis also put you at risk for HIV.
- ☐ Have I ever injected drugs?
If you've ever injected drugs, even once, and shared needles or works (cotton, cooker, rinse water) you're at high risk for getting HIV and hepatitis.
- ☐ Do I have unsafe sex?
If you've ever had anal or vaginal sex without a condom, you're at high risk for getting HIV or other STDs. Using condoms every time, the right way, can greatly reduce your risk.
- ☐ Has my partner been told he/she has HIV, an STD or hepatitis?
If your partner has had a history of HIV, STDs or hepatitis, you may be at risk. Knowing your partner's health history is important for making decisions about ways to reduce your risk.
- ☐ Does my partner inject drugs or have unsafe sex?
If you think your partner injects drugs, has unsafe sex with other partners, or trades sex for money or drugs, you may also be at risk. Knowing what your partner's risks are is important for making decisions about ways to reduce your risk.
- ☐ Am I pregnant or do I want to get pregnant?
HIV can be passed from mother to child. Treatments can reduce the chances of passing HIV to your baby down to 1-2%. Treatment at any point during your pregnancy gives you a better chance of having a healthy baby.
- ☐ Has my health changed recently?
If you are at risk for HIV, flu-like symptoms such as chronic fever, swollen glands, and fatigue, may be a sign of recent HIV infection. Sores, blisters, rashes, discharge or pain and burning when you urinate or ejaculate, may mean you should be screened for STDs, hepatitis and HIV. Having an STD increases your chance of getting HIV. Not all STDs have symptoms, so regular screening is important if you have unsafe sex.

Face the truth. If you checked “yes” to any of these questions, you may be at risk for HIV. If you take the risk, take the test. Knowing your status and the status of your partner can help you make decisions about ways to reduce that risk.

Get Tested. Get Care. Get Support.

It’s easy. It’s confidential.

Call the AIDS Action Committee Hotline at 1-800-235-2331

(English/Spanish) or go to www.aac.org/hotline for more information.

Ways to Reduce Your Risk

Here are some options that can help reduce your risk for HIV, STDs, and hepatitis. Some may be more effective than others, but even one will help reduce your risk.

Sexual and Injecting Drug Use Risk Reduction:

- **Know your HIV status**
- **Get tested for HIV**
- **Get vaccinated for hepatitis A and B**
- **Get screened for STDs**
- **Know your partner’s HIV status**
- **Use condoms while having anal or vaginal sex**
- **Don’t share your needles or works (cotton, cooker, rinse water)**
- **Use a Needle Exchange Program**

Talk to your test counselor about these and other ways of reducing your risk.